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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/>	25X1A
SUBJECT	Stalin Polytechnic College in Sofia	DATE DISTR.	5 November 1953	
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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SOURCE:

1. The Stalin Polytechnic College in Sofia has the following departments:
 - a. Civil engineering, divided into sections for civil engineering and hydrotechnics. Civil engineering has two courses, one for concrete and iron construction and one for communications. Hydrotechnics has four courses, including irrigation and drainage, water engineering and sanitary engineering;
 - b. Architecture;
 - c. Geodesy, divided into sections for levelling and surveying. In May 1953 it was announced that the department will be transferred to the High School for Agriculture on Dragan Tsankov Street;
 - d. Electrical engineering. Divided into a number of sections including high tension, low tension and construction;
 - e. Mechanical engineering, divided into a large number of sections, including internal combustion motors, heavy industrial equipment, textile machines, aeronautics, agricultural machinery and cold storage. In 1951 a new building was built for this department near Levski's monument, located behind the Parliament on the site of the former government press destroyed during the war; and
 - f. Chemistry and technology, divided into a number of sections including organic chemistry and inorganic chemistry.
2. The college has 6,000 students, most of them taking mechanical engineering. The norms required for admittance to any of the departments are fixed every year by the government Supreme Planning Committee. Students are admitted according to political affiliations and to credits obtained in competitive examinations. Registration requires a certificate from the local council of the place of residence containing the student's past record and his political affiliations, a health certificate, a matriculation certificate, and a certificate confirming

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that the applicant has neither stood trial nor been imprisoned. The period of study in all the departments is five years.

3. There were 250 candidates for the 60 places available in the geodesy department in 1947, and 56 were graduated from this course in 1953. Final examinations in the geodesy course include 46 examinations, some of them on political subjects.
4. Until 1948 students attended two political courses, political economy and scientific philosophy; then two more were added, Marxism-Leninism and the History of the Soviet Communist Party. All students must attend Russian language classes two hours weekly for the first two years.
5. Military training, which began in 1950, includes lectures and theoretical training indoors and 45 days of regular military training during the summer vacation between the first and the second school year. Lectures and theoretical training take eight to twelve hours weekly and are compulsory for all students. Students are trained as military specialists in their field of study; i.e. chemical engineers are trained in chemical warfare, students of geodesy are trained either in artillery or topography, etc. Where an alternative field is possible, students may not make their own choice but are detailed to one of the branches. Women students attend theoretical military studies but do not undergo field training and do not receive a military rank upon graduation. During the 45-day period of military training, girls are on vacation.
6. The instructors are mainly reserve officers, wearing either civilian clothes or uniforms. An officer holding the rank of full colonel is responsible for all military training at the school.
7. There is no central training base where the students receive basic military training in summer. Students are sent to various military establishments all over Bulgaria, every branch of service and every course going to a different location. These locations are changed every year so that students do not know where they will be sent for training.
8. On graduation average students receive the rank of second lieutenant, and those with very good credits the rank of first lieutenant in the reserves. Students who began their studies in 1949 are called up for a year of military service on graduation, according to a special ordinance of the Council of Ministers which was published in 1953. Those who have completed such courses as aeronautics, levelling, etc., and who have shown proof of their support of the regime, remain in the regular Army at the end of their one year of compulsory service.
9. Graduates of the school are liable to three years work at a place appointed by the Committee for Science, Art and Culture (Komitet za Nauka, Iskustva i Kultura) on Ruski Boulevard (formerly Tsar Osvoboditel Street) opposite the Russian church. Ruben Levi is the head of the Committee.
10. Attached to the school is a newly established Institute for Hydrotechnical Research. This institute is located in a new wing completed in the winter of 1952-53. It has a hall housing a large pool where models of hydroelectrical plants are tried under true proportional conditions. The following sketch shows the location and buildings of the new Hydrotechnical Research Institute:

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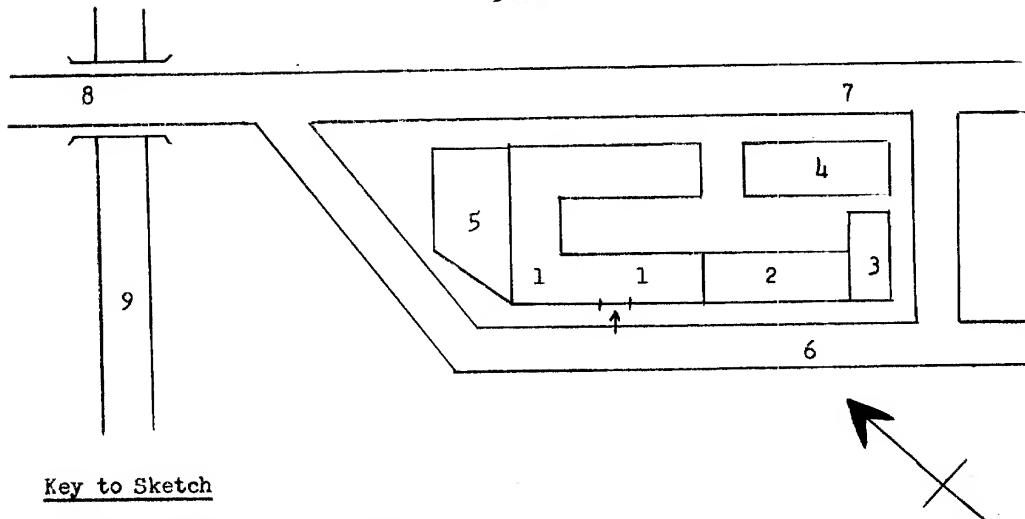
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Key to Sketch

1. Department of Architecture
 2. Department of Hydrotechnics
 3. Hydrotechnical Institute
 4. Studio of Radio Sofia
 5. Technical Secondary School
 6. Khristo Smirnenski Street
 7. Dürven Road
 8. Graf Ignatiev Road
 9. Perlovets River
11. A few students from the Polytechnic College attend lectures at an institute for nuclear fission research attached to Sofia University. A woman professor who was at one time an assistant to professor Thompson heads the institute and also lectures on this subject. Informant believes that the research, if any, is very limited in scope.

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